

QA-34  
Elwood Jackson Farm  
Millington  
Private

1830

The brick house on the Elwood Jackson farm is one of the most perfectly preserved early 19th century vernacular dwellings in Queen Anne's County. The few alterations that have occurred are superficial in nature, and are compensated for by the pristine condition of all of the interior detail and the undisturbed nature of the exterior. Discovery of a board with the signature "Bill Lamb 1830" suggests a date of construction and possible builder. Of particular interest is the unusual second floor plan, which suggests an unusual level of segregation in living space.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Elwood Jackson farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Stulltown-Blanco Road

CITY, TOWN

Peters Corners

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Elwood H. Jackson

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

RD#1, Box 356

CITY, TOWN

Clayton

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Delaware 19938

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: ASG Jr. 17

Folio #: 580

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

QA-34

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Elwood Jackson farm is located on the west side of Stulltown Blanco Road approximately 2 1/2 miles northeast of Peters Corners, and within 1/4 mile of the Delaware border. The house and associated farmbuildings are sited on high ground, with open fields sloping gently to the west to the banks of Andover Branch.

The house is of brick construction, two stories high and three bays wide with flush brick chimneys at each end of a pitched gable roof. A two story frame wing projects from the south end of the rear or southwest facade. The main house is typical of the second quarter of the 19th century, and the present owner recalls that a board with the inscription "Bill Lamb 1830" written in pencil was found during remodeling work a few years ago. The board was given to a local man with the same name and was unfortunately lost following his death. The frame wing is apparently a later addition, but may replace an earlier wing.

The principal facade faces northeast. The front entrance is located in the center bay, with a single six-over-six window on either side.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

Two six-over-six windows are similarly placed on the second floor, with the center bay not expressed.

Heavy plank shutters flank each window opening. These are constructed of beaded horizontal planks on one side (the exposed face when open) and beaded vertical planks on the other. Nails are driven through from front to back and clinched, and the shutters are hung on wrought strap hinges. The handsome shutter dogs and sliding bolt catches are also hand-wrought.

Two small four-light attic windows flanking the chimney are the only openings in the northwest gable. On the southeast gable, there is one six-over-six window to the left of the chimney on the first and second floor, and two four-light windows flank the chimney in the upper gable.

The rear facade is partially covered by the frame wing, leaving a blocked-up door opening in the center bay and a single six-over-six window on each floor in the northeast bay. Wrought shutter dogs remain at each window opening, but the shutters have not survived.

The bonding pattern on all four walls is four-course bond, with a four-course corbeled brick cornice

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

on both facades. The gable eaves are finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards. The roof is covered with wood shingles; there are no dormer windows. An early 20th century porch protects all three openings on the first floor of the front facade, but does not extend to the corners.

The first floor is laid out in a hall-parlour plan, with a modern bathroom inserted into the south corner of the northwest room (the hall). This is the larger of the two rooms, and at one time had opposing front and rear doors. The rear door has been blocked, and now the bathroom occupies that corner of the room.

The fireplace is centered on the northwest gable wall, with a large four-door cupboard built into the alcove to the left of the fireplace and an enclosed winder stair to the right. The cupboard is extremely simple, with the doors constructed of beaded vertical boards, hung on butt hinges. The cupboard is trimmed with a simple architrave set off by an ovolo backband with fillets. A square section shelf supported by a complex Federal molding runs horizontally between the upper and lower cupboard doors. The mantel on this wall is a very handsome Federal surround more typical of the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

period 1790-1820. The fireplace opening is framed by a broken field architrave with a molded backband. This is surmounted by reeded sideblocks, a large reeded center block, and a molded shelf which breaks forward above each of the blocks. A two-piece chairrail and window and door architraves with an ovolo backband set off by fillets add further refinement to the room.

The southeast room (the parlour) is somewhat smaller than the hall. The fireplace is approximately centered on the gable wall, with a window in the alcove to the right and an enclosed winder stair to the left. A door in the center of the rear wall leads to the wing. This is apparently an original door, as the architrave is identical to that found throughout the main house. The mantel in this room is also Federal, but plain sideblocks are substituted for the bold reeded blocks found in the hall. The shelf is similar to the hall mantel but is more heavily molded, and does not break forward in the center. A very narrow and simple two door cupboard is positioned immediately to the right of the fireplace. The door and window architraves all employ the same ovolo backband found in the hall, and the shelf of a chairrail remains, but the fascia is

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

covered with modern paneling.

The second floor plan is quite unusual. It is divided into four rooms, with a heavy brick partition bisecting the building directly above the first floor partition, and a second stud partition wall running lengthwise to create two rectangular unheated vestibules or halls on the northeast facade. Although it initially appears that the plan has been modified, all partitions are clearly original. The winder stairs open into these two "halls", and single batten doors lead from the halls into the two heated chambers. The winder stairs continue up to the attic, and are particularly noteworthy because the stair soffits have been very carefully plastered.

The two larger chambers are each heated by a small fireplace on the gable wall, and both retain original Federal mantels. A batten door allows access between the two rooms, and an original door in the rear wall of the southeast chamber leads to the second floor of the wing. This door is constructed in much the same manner as the exterior shutters. Vertical boards are secured to three beveled battens, and then horizontal beaded boards are secured in a horizontal position

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

between the battens. These horizontal boards are original, as they are rabbeted into the back edge of the battens. Also of interest are the wrought iron bolts on the interior batten doors, an unsigned metal box lock with brass knobs in the northwest chamber, and the ghost of a wrought iron pull handle on the door between the two chambers.

The attic could be reached at either end of the building, but the winder stair at the northwest end has now been sealed and is no longer used. The attic has a floor, but otherwise lacks any finish plaster, kneewalls or whitewash. Traces remain of a beaded board partition wall which at one time divided the attic into two rooms. Only a few short pieces of the board paneling remain, but the base nailer is completely intact. This runs all the way across the attic, and raises the possibility that there was no connecting door in the partition, with each room served by one of the stairs. The machine-made nails that held the vertical boards remain in the rafters and along the base nailer. A steep ladder-stair leading to the roof hatch remains in place. The steps are let into the carriages, but are not dovetailed.



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.6 DESCRIPTION

The roof is of common rafter construction, with hewn and pit-sawn rafters secured at the ridge with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. This roof is somewhat unusual because there are no collar beams or other bracing. Also of interest are the gable rafter pairs at each end, which are whitewashed, while the remainder of the rafters and roof nailers are left exposed.

Smoke house: Directly to the west of the house is a post-and-plank smoke house. It is 14 feet wide and 12 feet long, with a wide door in the center of the northeast gable. The log planks average 8 to 10 inches in width and 3 to 4 inches in thickness, and are mortised into the corner posts and secured with pegs. A pair of intermediate posts frame the door opening, but the remaining walls are free of both intermediate posts and down braces. The walls are whitewashed and apparently were never chinked, as the whitewash also shows on the inner face of the exterior vertical board siding.

The roof is 45 degrees in pitch, with hewn and pit sawn rafters secured at the ridge with a pegged

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.7 DESCRIPTION

mortise-and-tenon joint and supported by a heavy square false plate. A single collar beam reinforces each rafter pair and is secured with pegged half-dovetail joints. The gable studs are mortised into the gable top plates and nailed to the gable rafter pairs with machine nails.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The brick house on the Elwood Jackson farm is one of the most perfectly preserved examples of early 19th century vernacular dwellings in Queen Anne's County. The few alterations which have occurred are superficial in nature, and are more than compensated for by the pristine condition of all of the interior detail and the undisturbed nature of the exterior. Mr. Jackson's discovery of a signed board apparently identifies both the date of construction and the builder. Although there is at present no data to confirm the identity of the builder, architectural evidence corresponds with this date, and adds credence to its accuracy.

Of particular interest in this dwelling is the relationship of each successive floor plan. While the hall-parlour plan found on the first floor is quite common, the unusual four room plan on the second floor is extremely rare. Both the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

arrangement of the rooms and the apparent desire to segregate the house on the upper floors suggests a somewhat unusual pattern of living. Segregated living space is relatively common in kitchen wings and additions, and is often identified with separation of family and servants or slaves. In this example, however, the segregation is only partial, with access still possible between rooms, and is clearly occurring within a single dwelling unit and probably within a single family. Possible explanations include a desire to separate several generations within a single family or to separate adult and/or married siblings.

Architectural details of interest include the very fine Federal woodwork, numerous examples of hand-wrought hardware, and the early batten shutters and shutter dogs on the front facade.

To the rear of the house is a well-preserved post-and-plank smoke house.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

3/2/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

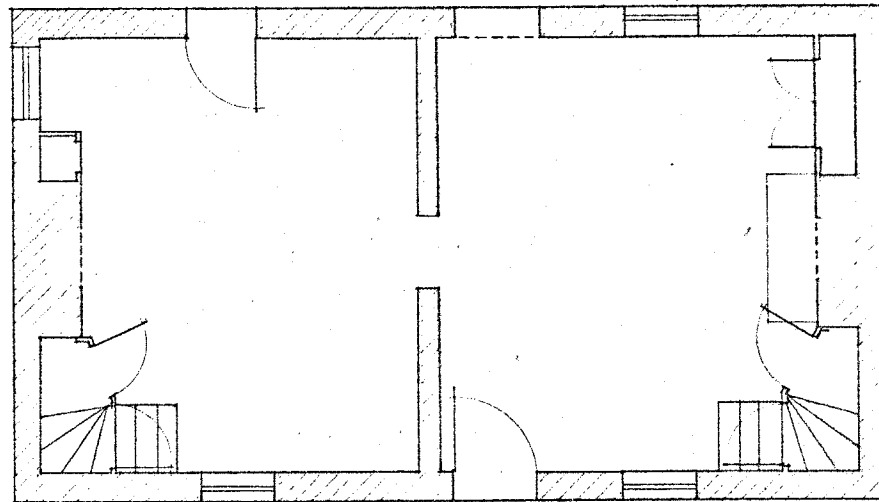
Maryland 21617

Field Book QA-VII January 30, 1979.

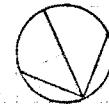
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



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SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

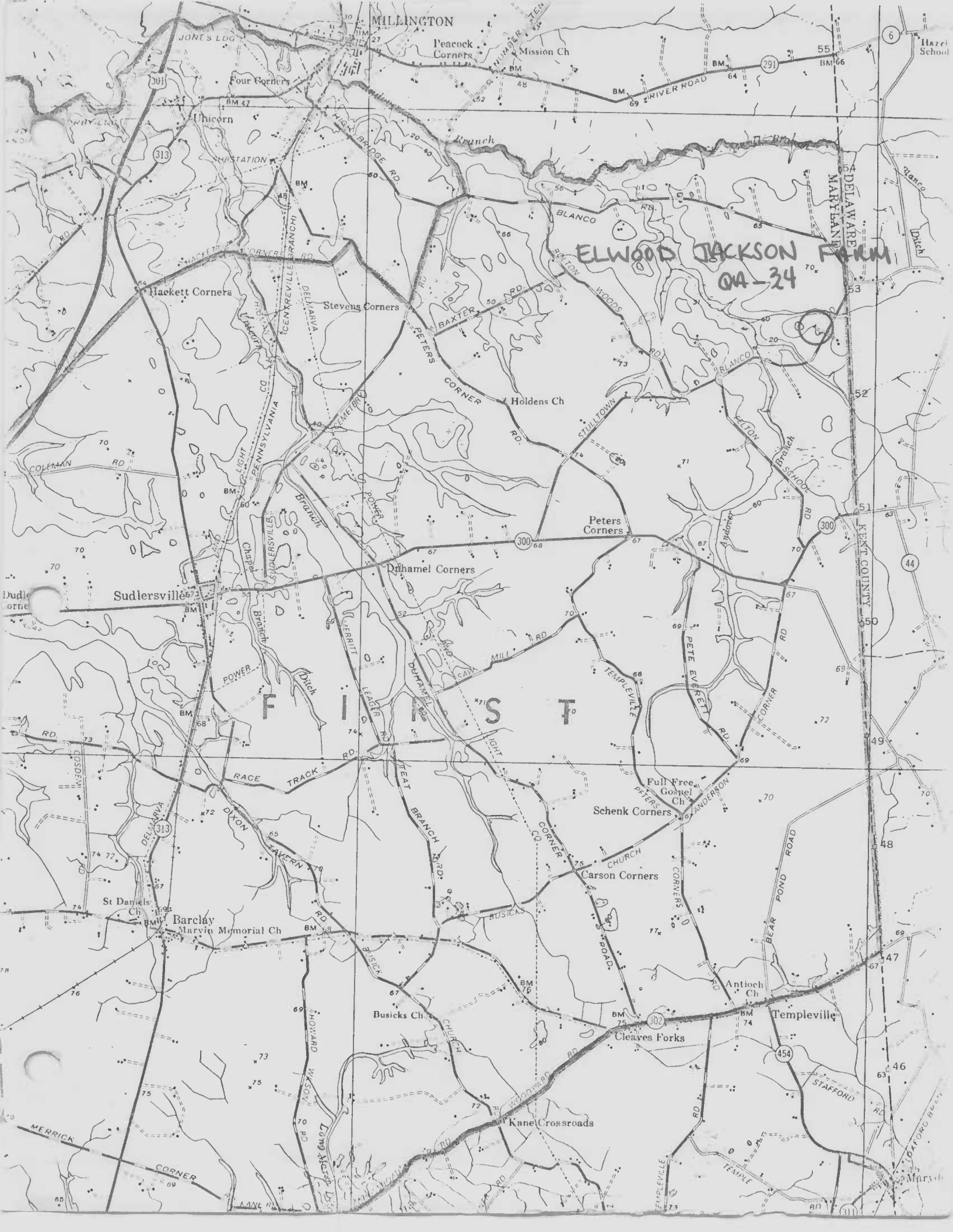


ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA-34

ELWOOD JACKSON FARM  
ANDOVER BRANCH

JANUARY 30, 1979.



QA-34

Elwood Jackson Farm

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT







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# 34

Elwood Jackson Farm

April 1974  
JWU